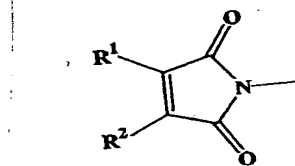


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A crosslinkable resin composition, comprising (A) a polymer that contains a maleimido group represented by formula (1):



wherein (i) one of R¹ and R² represents a hydrogen atom while the other represents an alkyl group having 4 or less carbon atoms, (ii) both R¹ and R² represent an alkyl group having 4 or less carbon atoms, or (iii) R¹ and R² are a saturated hydrocarbon group in the form of a carbocyclic structure and an ethylenically unsaturated group on a side chain thereto, said polymer having a number average molecular weight of 1,000 or more.

Claim 2 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which said maleimido group is bonded via an ester or urethane linkage to an ethylenically unsaturated group-containing polymer.

Claim 3 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which said ethylenically unsaturated group is bonded via an ester or urethane linkage to a maleimido group-containing polymer.

Claim 4 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, further comprising (B) a compound, other than the component (A), containing an ethylenically unsaturated group.

Claim 5 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which said ethylenically unsaturated group of the component (A) is acryloyl or methacryloyl group.

Claim 6 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 4, in which the component (B) is a compound having two or more ethylenically unsaturated groups.

Claim 7 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 6, in which said ethylenically unsaturated groups of the component (B) are acryloyl or methacryloyl groups.

Claims 8 and 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which said composition is an aqueous crosslinkable resin composition.

Claim 11 (original): An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 10, in which the component (A) is dissolved or dispersed in an aqueous medium.

Claim 12 (currently amended): An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which the component (A) is a polymer containing a maleimido group represented by said formula (1), an ethylenically unsaturated group and an acidic group, or a salt of the polymer.

Claim 13 (original): An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 12, in which said acidic group is a carboxyl group.

Claim 14 (original): An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 13, further comprising (B) a compound, other than the component (A), containing two or more ethylenically unsaturated groups.

Claim 15 (original): An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 14, in which said ethylenically unsaturated groups of the component (B) are acryloyl or methacryloyl groups.

Claims 16-19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (previously presented): A crosslinkable resin composition comprising a compound as defined in claim 1, said resin composition crosslinkable by irradiation with an active energy beam.

Claim 21 (original): A method for coating an article, which comprises applying a composition of claim 1 to an article, and then irradiating the composition with an active energy beam.

Claim 22 (previously presented): An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition comprising a composition as defined in claim 1, said resin composition crosslinkable by irradiation with an active energy beam.

Claim 23 (original): A method of coating an article, which comprises applying a composition of claim 1 to an article, and then irradiating the composition with an active energy beam.

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Claim 24 (previously presented): An aqueous paint for wood, comprising a composition as defined in claim 1, said paint crosslinkable by irradiation with an ultraviolet light.

Claim 25 (original): A method for coating wood, which comprises applying a composition of claim 1 to wood, and then irradiating the composition with an ultraviolet light.

Claim 26 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition defined in claim 1 in which said polymer has a number average molecular weight of 1,000 to 1,000,000.